

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 MC-02
PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 ACDA-07 IGA-02 AID-05 OC-06 CCO-00 EB-07
OMB-01 TRSE-00 COME-00 /087 W
-----069351 061251Z /46

O P 061208Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4760
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SANA PRIORITY
CNO WASHDC PRIORITY
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
CJCS WASHDC PRIORITY
CSAF WASHDC PRIORITY
CSA WASHDC PRIORITY
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER PRIORITY

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 4152

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, ET, US
SUBJ: TERMINATION OF US-ETHIOPIAN MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP

REF: A. STATE 150549, B. STATE 152140 (NOTAL)
C. STATE 152851 (NOTAL)

1. I FINALLY WAS ABLE TO SEE MOFA PERMSEC MAJ. DAWIT
WOLDE-GHIORGIS MORNING JULY 6 TO ADVISE HIM OF
US DECISIONS RELATING TO MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP
TERMINATION. MY PRESENTATION FOLLOWED TALKING POINTS
LISTED BELOW (DRAWN FROM INSTRUCTIONS REFTELS), COPY
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OF WHICH I LEFT WITH DAWIT AS "BOUT DE PAPIER":

2. A. "RECENTLY, THE MATTER OF OUTSTANDING MILITARY
PURCHASES IN THE UNITED STATES BY YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN
RAISED WITH ME, AND I HAVE NOTED THAT IT WAS OUR PERCEPTION
AS A RESULT OF ACTIONS OF YOUR GOVERNMENT WITH REGARD TO
MAAG, NAMRU, KAGNEW AND THE DEFENSE ATTACHE'S OFFICE,

THE TERMINATION OF THE 1953 AGREEMENTS, AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF TRAINEES FROM THE U.S., THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT WISHED TO TERMINATE OUR MILITARY RELATIONSHIP.

B. USG HAS THEREFORE BEEN STUDYING CAREFULLY THE IMPLICATIONS OF THESE DECISIONS AND HAS NOW CONCLUDED THAT THESE ACTIONS TERMINATING MILITARY COOPERATION WITH US HAVE REMOVED THE LEGAL BASIS FOR OUR PROVISION OF DEFENSE ARTICLES UNDER MAP, CREATED INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLES TO FOREIGN MILITARY SALES (FMS) SUPPLIES (I.E., END-USE AND RE-TRANSFER ASSURANCES), CLOSED THE CHANNELS THROUGH WHICH SUCH ARTICLES HAVE BEEN FURNISHED, AND REMOVED THE MECHANISM THROUGH WHICH WE COULD SATISFY OUR OBLIGATION FOR VERIFICATION OF END-ITEM USE.

C. WE ARE, HOWEVER, AUTHORIZING DELIVERY OF THE THREE COMMERCIAL PURCHASED PATROL BOATS MINUS ARMAMENT THAT HAVE NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED IN ETHIOPIA, AND OF

D. ALL ITEMS ALREADY DELIVERED TO YOUR GOVERNMENT'S FREIGHT FORWARDER ON WHICH TITLE HAS PASSED TO ETHIOPIA.

E. WITH REGARD TO OTHER ITEMS FOR WHICH PROGRESS PAYMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE, THERE ARE, AS YOUR EXCELLENCY MAY KNOW, A NUMBER OF MATTERS OUTSTANDING BETWEEN US HAVING FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS, INCLUDING, FOR EXAMPLE,
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NOT ONLY YOUR PROGRESS PAYMENTS, BUT UNPAID LOAN BALANCES, AND A NUMBER OF UNSETTLED MATTERS INCLUDING UTILITY BILLS AND PROPERTY AT KAGNEW STATION. WE WILL BE COMMUNICATING LATER WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT REGARDING A SETTLEMENT OF THESE ACCOUNTS.

F. WHILE THIS TERMINATION OF THE US-ETHIOPIAN MILITARY RELATIONSHIP IS REGRETTABLE AS REFLECTING THE DECLINE THAT HAS OCCURRED IN OUR RELATIONS AS A RESULT OF RECENT EVENTS, IT DOES LEAVE US IN A POSITION TO CONCENTRATE ALL OUR EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF THOSE ASPECTS OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO BROAD MASSES OF NEEDY SEGMENTS OF POPULATION.

G. WE THEREFORE HOPE THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL NOW PERMIT US TO PROCEED NOT ONLY WITH EXISTING AID PROJECTS (E.G., PULSES DIVERSIFICATION AND IMPROVEMENT) BUT ALSO WITH AID PROJECTS WE HAVE PROPOSED ON WHICH YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS TO DATE NOT SUBMITTED OFFICIAL REQUESTS BUT WHICH WILL DIRECTLY SERVE THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AIMS OF THE REVOLUTION (E.G., UPPER DIDESSA, RURAL ROADS, AND AGRICULTURAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENT). WE

HOPE YOUR GOVERNMENT SHARES OUR VIEW THAT A NORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, SUPPLEMENTED BY COOPERATION IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS, WILL ACCURATELY REFLECT THE CURRENT STATE OF OUR RELATIONS WHICH WE HOPE TIME AND GROWTH OF MUTUAL TRUST WILL ENABLE TO IMPROVE."

3. DAWIT'S RESPONSE WAS BRIEF, GENTLE, AND RELAXED. SINCE HIS PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE PROBABLY GAVE HIM BETTER KNOWLEDGE OF ASSISTANCE PROBLEMS IN ETHIOPIA AND US ACTIVITIES IN THAT REGARD THAN ANYONE ELSE IN MOFA, HE FELT HE COULD SAY THAT AT LEAST PROPER ATMOSPHERE REMAINED FOR USAID PERSONNEL TO FUNCTION PRODUCTIVELY AND FOR TWO COUNTRIES TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONSHIP IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FIELD. CERTAINLY HE WOULD TRY TO
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CONTINUE PROPER RELATIONSHIP IN THIS FIELD. ON ARMAMENTS, DAWIT DID NOT COMMENT, SAYING ONLY THAT HE WOULD BRING MATTER IMMEDIATELY TO ATTENTION OF PMAC CHAIRMAN MENGISTU AND MIDEF AND MEET AGAIN WITH ME IF NECESSARY TO CONVEY ANY REACTIONS.

4. DAWIT'S ATTITUDE WAS MODESTLY POSITIVE, AND IF HE WAS UPSET BY ANY OF NEWS, HE CERTAINLY DID NOT SHOW IT. REACTION FROM EPMG, IF ANY, WILL COME PRINCIPALLY FROM OTHER QUARTERS, HOWEVER.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREATY TERMINATION, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ADDIS04152
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770239-0599
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770790/aaaaczve.tel
Line Count: 147
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: dbd4b370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 150549, 77 STATE 152140, 77 STATE 152851
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1961035
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TERMINATION OF US-ETHIOPIAN MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP
TAGS: MASS, ET, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dbd4b370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009